

# 50 Years of Europa

In Europe, the idea of a "joint stamp emission" was first conceived in 1952. The motivation was to symbolise the harmonisation of the

community's interests and objectives. Six countries, who already were linked in the Coal and Steel Community (viz. Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, France, West Germany and Italy) decided to issue similar stamps with a common design, being the letters E U R O P A in the form of a tower surrounded by scaffolding. Their stamps were released in 1956.

The idea caught on and by 1958 eight countries (now including Turkey) were releasing common-design EUROPA stamps. During the summer of 1959, an assembly of 23 European postal administrations took place in Montreux, Switzerland, and the Conference des Postes et des Telecommunications (CEPT) was born. 1960 saw the first official EUROPA - CEPT stamp issues. These emanated from 23 countries, including Great

Britain. And onwards, throughout the next decade, more and more countries joined the CEPT organisation. Gradually the emphasis on a common design receded: instead a common theme was chosen and each participating country (currently numbering upwards of 35) produced its own unique interpretation. A particular milestone was 1984 when twenty-five years of active cooperation was celebrated. The success of the entire enterprise has been appreciated by many postal administrations outside Europe and several are preparing to celebrate the longevity, "Fifty Years of European Philatelic Cooperation, 1956 -2006".



**Collectors Notes:**

Designer: Denise Durkin, Wellington , New Zealand  
 Printer: BDT Printers, Dublin, Ireland  
 Process: Offset Lithography  
 Stamp Size: 42.58mm x 28.58mm horizontal  
 Mini Sheet size: 147mm x 93mm horizontal  
 Paper: 110gsm, litho gummed stamp paper  
 Denominations: 60s, \$3.00, \$4.00, and \$10.00  
 Period of Sale: 7 December 2005, for a period of two years.

**For further information please contact:**

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**ORDER FORM FOR CASUAL ORDERS OR ADDITIONAL ORDERS FOR STANDING ORDER CUSTOMERS**

ITEM	PRICE (Tala)	No.	TOTAL
4 stamp set	17.60		
Miniature Sheet	FREE		
Stamps on FDC	19.10		
Mini Sheet on FDC	19.10		
Reg.Post + Ins			
<b>TOTAL</b>			

Name:..... Phone / Fax.....

Address..... Email.....

Signed.....

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